

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BONN 06279 071309Z
ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-10 IO-13
L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 /094 W
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P 071304Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7424
INFO USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY
USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY
CINC EUR VAIHINGEN PRIORITY

S E C R E T BONN 06279

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR, GW
SUBJECT: MBFR - GERMAN POSITION ON WESTERN INITIATIVE

REF: STATE 087492

ON APRIL 6 VAN WELL TOLD ME THE FRG REPRESENTATIVE AT THE NAC HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO GO ALONG WITH THE SILENCE PROCEDURE ON TABLING THE WESTERN INITIATIVE ON MBFR. VAN WELL SAID GENSCHER HAD BEEN SOMEWHAT HESITANT ON THIS QUESTION DURING HIS TALKS WITH THE SECRETARY (REFTEL) BECAUSE OF CONCERN THAT THE NEW FORMULA, COUPLED WITH UNCERTAINTY ABOUT ERW, MIGHT HAVE GENERATED CRITICAL WESTERN PRESS COMMENTARY. THE FRG DID, HOWEVER, WISH TO INTRODUCE THE INITIATIVE DURING THE PRESENT ROUND. VAN WELL EXPLAINED THAT THE GERMANS EXPECTED BREZHNEV TO MAKE MBFR A FOCUS OF HIS TALKS HERE. THEY BELIEVED THAT, WITH THE INITIATIVE ON THE TABLE, THEY WOULD BE IN THE DESIRABLE POSITION OF SIMPLY LISTENING TO SOVIET VIEWS ON THIS SCORE.

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Message Attributes

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